



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

Division of Workers' Compensation - Medical Fee Dispute Resolution (MS-48)

7551 Metro Center Drive, Suite 100, Austin, Texas 78744-1645

(512) 804-4000 | F: (512) 804-4811 | (800) 252-7031 | TDI.texas.gov | @TexasTDI

MEDICAL FEE DISPUTE RESOLUTION FINDINGS AND DECISION

GENERAL INFORMATION

Requestor Name

STEVE SACKS, MD

Respondent Name

PRAETORIAN INSURANCE CO

MFDR Tracking Number

M4-16-0529-01

Carrier's Austin Representative

Box Number 19

MFDR Date Received

OCTOBER 29, 2015

REQUESTOR'S POSITION SUMMARY

Requestor's Position Summary: "We submitted a request for reconsideration to Praetorian Insurance on 08/25/2015, this request was in response to a \$49.35 reduction of the \$1030.93 for the EMG performed on 01/27/2015. Unfortunately our request was denied and we are seeking the balance owed to us."

Amount in Dispute: \$49.35

RESPONDENT'S POSITION SUMMARY

Respondent's Position Summary: "the carrier asserts that it has paid according to applicable fee guidelines and challenges whether the disputed charges are consistent with applicable fee guidelines."

Response Submitted By: Flahive, Ogden & Latson

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Dates of Service	Disputed Services	Amount In Dispute	Amount Due
January 27, 2015	CPT Code 99204 New Patient Office Visit	\$0.63	\$0.63
	CPT Code 95886 (X2) Needle EMG	\$0.70	\$0.70
	CPT Code 95912 Nerve Conduction Studies (11-12)	\$39.62	\$0.97
	HCPCS Code A4556 Electrodes	\$8.40	\$0.00
TOTAL		\$49.35	\$2.30

FINDINGS AND DECISION

This medical fee dispute is decided pursuant to Texas Labor Code §413.031 and all applicable, adopted rules of the Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation.

Background

1. 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307 sets out the procedures for resolving medical fee disputes.
2. 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.203, effective March 1, 2008, sets the reimbursement guidelines for the disputed service.
3. The services in dispute were reduced/denied by the respondent with the following reason codes:
 - P12-Workers' compensation jurisdictional fee schedule adjustment.
 - 309-The charge for this procedure exceeds the fee schedule allowance.
 - 97-Payment adjusted because the benefit for this service is included in the payment/allowance for another service/procedure that has already been adjudicated.
 - 243-The charge for this procedure was not paid since the value of this procedure is included/bundled within the value of another procedure performed.
 - OA-The amount adjusted is due to bundling or unbundling of services.
 - B13-Previously paid. Payment for this claim/service may have been provided in a previous payment.
 - 247-A payment or denial has already been recommended for this service.
 - 193-Original payment decision is being maintained. Upon review, it was determined that this claim was processed properly.
 - W3-Additional payment made on appeal/reconsideration.

Issues

1. Is the requestor entitled to additional reimbursement for CPT code 99204, 95886 and 95912?
2. Is the benefit for HCPCS code A4556 included in the benefit of another service billed on the disputed date? Is the requestor entitled to reimbursement for HCPCS code A4556?

Findings

1. To determine if the requestor is due additional reimbursement for CPT codes 99204, 95886 and 95912 the Division refers to 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.203(c)(1)(2), which states "To determine the MAR for professional services, system participants shall apply the Medicare payment policies with minimal modifications.

(1) For service categories of Evaluation & Management, General Medicine, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Radiology, Pathology, Anesthesia, and Surgery when performed in an office setting, the established conversion factor to be applied is \$52.83. For Surgery when performed in a facility setting, the established conversion factor to be applied is \$66.32.

(2) The conversion factors listed in paragraph (1) of this subsection shall be the conversion factors for calendar year 2008. Subsequent year's conversion factors shall be determined by applying the annual percentage adjustment of the Medicare Economic Index (MEI) to the previous year's conversion factors, and shall be effective January 1st of the new calendar year. The following hypothetical example illustrates this annual adjustment activity if the Division had been using this MEI annual percentage adjustment: The 2006 Division conversion factor of \$50.83 (with the exception of surgery) would have been multiplied by the 2007 MEI annual percentage increase of 2.1 percent, resulting in the \$51.90 (with the exception of surgery) Division conversion factor in 2007."

To determine the MAR the following formula is used: (DWC Conversion Factor/Medicare Conversion Factor) X Participating Amount = Maximum Allowable Reimbursement (MAR).

The 2015 DWC conversion factor for this service 56.2.

The Medicare Conversion Factor is 35.7547

Review of Box 32 on the CMS-1500 the services were rendered in zip code 77042, which is located in Houston, Texas. Therefore, the Medicare participating amount will be based on the reimbursement for "Houston, Texas".

Using the above formula, the Division finds the following:

Code	Medicare Participating Amount	Maximum Allowable	Carrier Paid	Due
99204	\$167.63	\$263.48	\$260.27	Requestor is seeking \$0.63
95886	\$92.77	\$145.82 X 2 = \$291.64	\$288.80	Requestor is seeking \$0.70
95912	\$265.49	\$417.30	\$416.33	\$0.97

2. According to the explanation of benefits, the respondent paid \$0.00 for HCPCS code A4556 based upon reason codes "97," and "243." The requestor indicated that payment of \$16.60 was issued for code A4556; however, documentation to support this payment was not submitted.

HCPCS Code A4556 is defined as "Electrodes (e.g., apnea monitor), per pair."

Per Medicare guidelines, Transmittal B-03-020, effective February 28, 2003 if Durable Medical Equipment Prosthetics Orthotics and Supplies (DMEPOS) HCPCS codes are incidental to the physician service, it is not separately payable. A review of the submitted documentation does not support a separate service to support billing HCPCS code A4556. As a result, additional reimbursement is not recommended.

Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, the Division finds that the requestor has established that additional reimbursement is due. As a result, the amount ordered is \$2.30.

ORDER

Based upon the documentation submitted by the parties and in accordance with the provisions of Texas Labor Code Sections 413.031 and 413.019 (if applicable), the Division has determined that the requestor is entitled to additional reimbursement for the services involved in this dispute. The Division hereby ORDERS the respondent to remit to the requestor the amount of \$2.30 plus applicable accrued interest per 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.130, due within 30 days of receipt of this Order.

Authorized Signature

_____ Signature	_____ Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Officer	11/24/2015 _____ Date
--------------------	---	-----------------------------

YOUR RIGHT TO APPEAL

Either party to this medical fee dispute has a right to seek review of this decision in accordance with 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307, 37 *Texas Register* 3833, applicable to disputes filed on or after June 1, 2012.

A party seeking review must submit a **Request to Schedule a Benefit Review Conference to Appeal a Medical Fee Dispute Decision** (form **DWC045M**) in accordance with the instructions on the form. The request must be received by the Division within **twenty** days of your receipt of this decision. The request may be faxed, mailed or personally delivered to the Division using the contact information listed on the form or to the field office handling the claim.

The party seeking review of the MFDR decision shall deliver a copy of the request to all other parties involved in the dispute at the same time the request is filed with the Division. **Please include a copy of the *Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Findings and Decision*** together with any other required information specified in 28 Texas Administrative Code §141.1(d).

Si prefiere hablar con una persona en español acerca de ésta correspondencia, favor de llamar a 512-804-4812.